

From: Uncle Dimi
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/4/02 7:47pm
Subject: Re: Microsoft Settlement

Dear DOJ,

I reside in San Diego and I primarily use my computer for personal home use. I just wanted to send this e-mail to express my opinion that it is time to let this suit against Microsoft come to an end. If indeed this proceeding was begun on the behalf of consumers like me, then consider this CA consumer satisfied. The settlement may not be perfect, but assuming enforcement authorities remain vigilant, I think it's worth taking the risk that Microsoft will behave.

I recently purchased a new Dell laptop and couldn't help but notice the preinstalled shortcuts on my desktop that directed me to Dell associated programs and services. If Dell can do this, then why is it wrong for Microsoft to incorporate programs and services in their operating system? I'm an average consumer, but I understand that whenever I enter a store or a desktop environment I will be subjected to promotional displays and crossmarketing efforts. Sometimes I may be seduced by these efforts, other times I will ignore them and search for a more satisfactory product or service. The choice is ultimately mine, and regardless of Microsoft's or other tech companies' efforts to direct my choices, the internet still provides unfettered access to an amazingly large and varied "department store" so to speak.

So, I'll wind it up by saying that if this settlement is sufficient to keep Microsoft feeling like the spotlight is always on them, which I think it is, then let's move on. Frankly, I'm getting tired of hearing about this suit. In the overall scheme of things, I may feel annoyed by some of Microsoft's activities and products, but I definitely do not feel gouged or ripped off by them. When it comes down to it, I most likely would not have adopted the use of a computer years ago if Windows had not made it so easy by unifying or monopolizing, if you will, the software world.

Do I want more choice? Probably. Do I want interoperability? Most definitely yes. Do I think I will suddenly get these things by continued efforts to deliver Microsoft's head on a platter. Not really. So I respectfully request that you make this settlement work and let's move on.

Thank you,
Dimitri C. Demopoulos